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CONGRESSMAN ED CASE

2ND DISTRICT, HAWAII

ISLANDS OF HAWAII, MAUI, KAHOLAWE, LANAI,
MOLOKA'I, O'AHU (WINDWARD, NORTH SHORE,
CENTRAL, LEEWARD), KAUA'I AND NI'HAU,
AND NORTHWESTERN HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

December 17, 2004

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REGULATORY REFORM
AND OVERSIGHT

FDA/Dockets Management (HFA 305)
5630 Fisher Lane
Room 1061
Rockville, Maryland 20857-0001

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Prevention of Salmonella Enteritidis in Shell Eggs during Production
Docket Numbers: 1996P-0418, 1997P-0197, 1998P-0203 and 2000N-504
RIN Number: 0910-AC14

I write in support of the Hawaii egg producers and their position that Salmonella Enteritidis (SE) is being adequately addressed in the Hawaii Egg Quality Assurance Plan. I thus concur with my senior Senator, Daniel Inouye, who wrote in 2000 to relay his support of the Hawaii egg producers' SE-related efforts.

The Hawaii egg industry produces approximately 148 million eggs per year. Statistics show that in 2004 Hawaii had a very low number (20) of reported SE cases. These statistics also prove that the Hawaii Egg Quality Assurance Plan is an effective and well-integrated plan.

Your consideration to allow Hawaii egg producers to continue using the protocols articulated in the Hawaii Egg Quality Assurance Plan as a viable method to ensure on-farm detection of SE contamination and to minimize the risk of contaminated eggs from reaching consumers will be greatly appreciated.

With aloha,

Ed Case

ED CASE
United States Congressman
Hawaii, Second District